

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-14, 17-18, and 26-34 and 36-38 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 8-14, 26-34 and 37 are withdrawn. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 35 has been cancelled as a result of this response. Claims 1, 6, 9, 13, 14 and 26 are independent claims.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 5, 35 and 38 are objected to but would be allowable if written in independent form. Applicants have rewritten independent claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 35, thereby placing claims 1, 5, 7, 17, 18, 35, 36, and 38 in condition for allowance. Applicants further respectfully request rejoinder of claims 8 and 37 which are allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1. Further Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of claims 6, 9-14, and 26-34.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner's rejection to the preamble of the claims. Applicants have amended the Specification accordingly.

35 U.S.C. § 103(A) ART REJECTION

Applicants respectfully submit that all art rejections are moot in light of the incorporation of the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 35 into independent claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of claims 1, 5-14, 17, 18, 26-34 and 36-38 is respectfully requested.

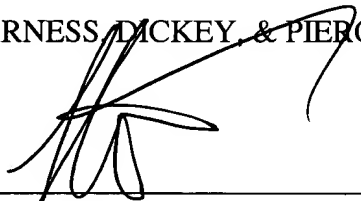
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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